EAST LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

1886

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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

EAST LIBERTY

Baptist Association

OF ALABAMA.

HELD WITH THE

PROVIDENCE CHURCH,

CHAMBERS COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,
September 22d, 23d and 24th., 1886.

Eld. John P. Shaffer, of Roanoke, Moderator.

Eld. William C. Bledsoe, of LaFayette, Clerk and Treasurer.

☞ The next session of the Association will be held at Dadeville, Tallapoosa county, Ala., beginning on Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in September 1887. Introductory sermon by Eld. A. S. Smith.

LAFAYETTE, ALABAMA.
RICHARDS & BURNETT, NEWS AND JOB PRINTERS.
1886.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT SESSION OF 1887.

ON STATE MISSIONS.—Eld John F Bledsoe, Chairman; H C Hudson, R B Lumpkin, H P Harrington, J P Barrow.

ON HOME MISSIONS.—N D Denson, Chairman; M P Stoker, John Fawsett, G A Sorrells, J C Bonds.

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.—Eld Geo E Brewer, Chairman; F M Handley, J R Carroll, B J Vines, W C Wyatt.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—W D Bulger, Chairman; W H Stewart. W T Johnson, O P Sanford, W R W Key.

ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.—Eld J A McCarley, Chairman; I Burden, J J Adams, J B Barrow, James Johnson.

ON TEMPERANCE.—Eld A S Smith, Chairman; J T Hester, W C Roeck, D H B Disheroon, H M Wilson.

ON EDUCATION.—Eld W C Bledsoe, Chairman; Henry Johnson, S J Meadows, W B Bledsoe, I T Morgan.

ON STATE OF RELIGION.—Eld C J Burden, Chairman; T J Gilliland, W Webb, I T Talbot, J P Seroyer.

ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.—Eld F H Moss, Chairman; J M Berry, J G Sorrells, W H Betts, A S Elliott.

ON DECEASED MINISTERS.—J. B. Barrow, Chairman; F W Shank, G W Newman, H G Webb, W E Shealy.

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY--MORNING.

PROVIDENCE CHURCH, CHAMBERS COUNTY, ALA.
Wednesday, September 22nd, 1886.

The Fifty-First Annual Session of the East Liberty Baptist Association of Alabama, met with the Providence Baptist church, Chambers County, on Wednesday, the 22nd day of September, A. D., 1886.

At the solicitation of Eld. G. E. Brewer, who had been appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, Dr. B. F. Riley, of Livingston, Ala., preached at 11 o'clock. The sermon was instructive and edifying, based on the text: "*His name shall be called Wonderful,*" Isaiah IX—6.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order at 1:30, p. m.

After singing the hymn—

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

prayer was offered by Eld. R. H. Bullock.

The letters from the churches were collected by T. J. Gilliland and Wilburn Key and were read by Eld. B. F. Riley and N. D. Denson.

DELEGATES FROM THE CHURCHES.

FIRST DISTRICT.—BEULAH.—Hugh Wallace, W H Betts, W M Betts.

BETHEL.—(Chambers.)—T N Jones, Isaac Burden, T Goodwin, R B Jordan.

BETHLEHEM.—F W Shank, H C Hudson, A S Elliott.

CUSSETA.—R B Lumpkin, Geo W Shealey, J B Barrow.

PROVIDENCE.—J H Wolfe, L L James, H P Harrington.

NEW HOPE.—J C Houston, W F Fuller, M V Maley, John Tison, J P Barrow.

HICKORY FLAT.—W D Patterson, M P Stoker.

ROANOKE.—John Fawsett, G W Hill, Thos D Weathers, I G Hill, H B Disheroon.

SECOND DISTRICT.—MILLTOWN.—W P Mathews, W H Blackburn, T E Delney, G A Sorrells, J G Sorrells.
LYSTRA.—J C Bonds, P A Simonton, J R McClain, A J Penn.
LIBERTY.—F M Handley, W H Stewart,
SHILOH.—J R Carroll, J M Jackson.
LEBANON.—B J Vines, E G Gregory, J S Washburn.
MT ZION.—W C Wyatt, H F Smith.
THIRD DISTRICT.—LAFAYETTE.—Jas E Scarbrough, S J Meadows. J J Adams, N D Denson,
ANTIOCH.—T J Gilliland, J T Hood, H W Garlington, W B Bledsoe, T R Jones,
ROCK SPRING.—G W Newman, W W Still, W Webb, W T Johnson, H G Webb.
COUNTY LINE.—J H Johnson, I T Talbot, J M Langley, I T Morgan, J C Talbot.
MT. PLEASANT.—J P Seroyer, W E Shealey, W R Dawson.
FARMVILLE.—J T Hester, R N Bottsford.
FOURTH DISTRICT.—DADEVILLE.—W D Bulger, W B O'Brien, James Johnson, H M Wilson.
CAMP HILL.—J H Mayne, V P Mathews.
TALLAPOOSA.—J M Berry, M J Banks.
EAGLE CREEK.—Represented by letter.
SANDY CREEK.—J F Reynolds, T D Lunsford, J C Lee.
PLEASANT RIDGE.—O P Sanford, W C Roeck W Patterson.
BETHEL.—(Lee.)—R Graves, John Pinnell, W C Hamer.
FELLOWSHIP.—J M Boon, D C Higgins, L Humphrey, W R W Key.

The following preachers were present, members of the Association:

Brewer, Geo E;	Burden, C J;	Bledsoe, John F;
Bledsoe, Wm C;	Hunter, J P;	Bullock, R H;
Garlington, Henry;	Moss, F H;	Fargarson, F B;
Hamner, J W	Smith, A S.	Horseley, H M,
Shaffer, Jno, P;		McCarley, J A;

OFFICERS.

Eld. Jno. P. Shaffer, of Roanoke, was elected Moderator, and Eld. W. C. Bledsoe, of LaFayette, was re elected Clerk and Treasurer.

The Moderator announced the following—

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT PRESENT SESSION.

ON FINANCE.—Jas E Scarbrough, Chairman, W R Dawson, F M Handley.

ON RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—W D Bulger, Chairman, I T Talbot, S J Meadows, and the Pastor and Delegates of Providence church.

TO WRITE THE CORRESPONDING LETTER.—Eld A S Smith.

ON NOMINATIONS.—J M Berry, Chairman; J H Wolfe, I G Hill, Geo W Shealey.

CORRESPONDENTS AND VISITING BRETHREN.

The Moderator called for correspondents and visiting brethren from other Associations, and the following were enrolled.

FROM THE WESTERN (Ga.)—Eld J M Calloway, T M Calloway, M H Hart, W S Jackson.

BIGBEE.—Eld B F Riley.

COOSA RIVER.—Eld J J D Renfro.

EUFAULA —Eld G A Nunnally.

On motion Dr. J. J. D. Renfro, editor of the *Alabama Baptist*, and Vice President for Alabama of the Foreign Mission Board of the S. B. Convention, Dr. B F. Riley, Vice President for Alabama of the Home Mission Board of the S. B. Convention, Dr. G. A. Nunually, Agent of the Alabama Baptist State Convention for the endowment of Howard College, were each recognized in their official capacity and invited to seats with the body and to a participation in its deliberations. Eld. J. M. Russell, of Texas, a venerable brother who once lived in the bounds of the East Liberty, was cordially invited to a seat in the body.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The Districts reported the following times and places for holding the District Meeting of the incoming Associational year:

FIRST DISTRICT —At Cusseta, beginning on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in July, 1887.

SECOND DISTRICT.—At Milltown, beginning on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in May, 1887.

THIRD DISTRICT —At Mt. Pleasant, beginning on Friday before the 1st Sunday in May, 1887.

FOURTH DISTRICT.—At Camp Hill, beginning on Friday before the 5th Sunday int Oct., 1886.

CORRESPONDENTS.

The following named brethren were appointed as Correspondents to other Associations:

TO THE TUSKEGEE.—To be held at County Line, on Wednesday, before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1886—Elds R H Bullock, H Garlington.

TO THE CAREY.—To be held at——————on Tuesday before the 3rd Sunday in Novevber, 1886:—Elds Jno P Shaffer, C J Burden, F H Moss.

TO THE CENTRAL.—To be held at Wayside, on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1886:—Elds G E Brewer, J F Bledsoe, F H Moss.

TO THE TALLAPOOSA RIVER.—To be held at Tallapoosa, on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1886:—Elds. G E Brewer, F H Moss Moss, T B Fargarson, W A Robertson.

TO THE WESTERN (Ga.)—To be held at White Oak Grove, on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1886:—Eld. J P Shaffer, I T Talbot.

TO THE ROCK MILLS.—To be held at Pleasant Grove, on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1886:—Eld C J Burden, I Burden, M P Stoker. G W Hill.

TO THE BOWEN (col.)—To be held at Reboboth, on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1887:—F W Shank, Geo W Shealey.

DELEGATES TO BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

The delegation to the State Convention was appointed as follows: Elds Geo E Brewer, Jno P Shaffer, J F Bledsoe, A S Smith, C J Burden, J P Hunter, F H Moss, R H Bullock, J W Hamner. (☞ The Convention meets at Union Springs, on Friday before the 3rd Sunday July. 1887.)

DELEGATES TO THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

The following named brethren were chosen to represent the Association at the next Session of the Southern Baptist Convention to be held at Louisville, Ky., beginning on Wednesday before the 3rd Sunday of May; 1887: Elds John P Shaffer, Geo E Brewer, W C Bledsoe, A S Smith,

J H Wolfe, W D Bulger.

The Committee on Religious Services reported that Dr. J J D Renfro would preach at 11 o'clock to morrow.

On motion adjourned to 9 o'clock to morrow morning.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Russell, of Texas.

SECOND DAY--MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23rd, 1886.
9 o'clock, a. m.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

After singing the hymn—

"Rock of ages, cleft for me,"

prayer was offered by Eld. J. P. Hunter.

The Moderator announced that Reports from Standing Committees were in order.

The Chairman, Eld. C. J. Burden, read the

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Home Missions have a very encouraging report to make on the success of our work as accomplished through our Home Board, located at Atlanta, Ga. The field for the work of the Home Board continues to open wider and reach farther every year.. And we thank God that through the liberality of the friends of Missions and the earnest efforts of the Secretary of the Home Board, Dr. I. T. Tichenor, the Board has been enabled for the last Conventional year to extend its work farther than in any year in its past history. as the following will show: Last year the Board had in its employ 255 Missionaries. supplied 649 churches and stations. Did 9,599 weeks' of labor. Delivered 27,263 sermons and addresses, attended 5,238 prayer meetings, baptized 3,812 received by letter, 2,344; total addition, 6,156. Sunday schools reported 326; teachers and pupils, 12,154; religious visits made, 33,154; churches constituted, 70; meeting houses built, 49; pages and tracts distributed, 228,615.

Though the Home Board is doing a great and good work, yet when we think of the eighteen millions of people in the Southern States out of the ark of safety, we can say the work is just begun. The Home Board is doing an extensive work in Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Florida, the Indian Territory, Texas, Western North Carolina, District of Columbia, and has stretched out her hand to help the Island of Cuba. The Home Board proposes to inaugurate an active work among the colored people in our own midst. The Home Board desires to raise ten thousand dollars to be expended in labors among this people this year. Will Alabama do her part?

May the great head of the church bless the work of Home Missions and prosper it until all American people shall have heard of the plan of Salvation in Christ, and be made christians and missionaries if possible. All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. J. BURDEN, Chairman.

The report contained the following sentence which was on motion stricken out: "There is no work fostered by the denomination that is of more interest, and that should claim so much of our prayers and money as the Home Mission work." The Association was unwilling to concede that the work of the Home Board was more important than

There are 31 Permanent Colportage Funds in the hands of the State Board, some of them not complete, however. The management of these costs a large amount of heavy labor to our Secretary, and interferes to a considerable degree with his opportunity to visit among the churches and associations. These colporteurs sold during the last Conventional year 2243 books, valued at $1429.02, and donated Bibles and Testaments to the value of $60,35. They have also aided in organizing churches and Sunday Schools.

Our own colporteur, Eld. J. F. Bledsoe, has given part of his time this year to the Tuskegee Association by an arrangement between the Executive Boards of the two bodies and the State Board. He has traveled 2377 miles. Sold and donated 613 books, valued at $595,85. Has preached 91 sermons, visited 195 families, assisted in meetings where 96 were baptized, and distributed about 4000 tracts.

By this work the Bible and other religious literature is scattered over the field, the seed planting from which a precious harvest is expected.

GEO. E. BREWER,
Chairman.
W. R. DAWSON,
ROBT. GRAVES.

The Reports were discussed by Elds. Bullock, J. F. Bledsoe and Shaffer, and were adopted.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, a. m., to-morrow.

Prayer by Eld. F. H. Moss.

THIRD DAY--MORNING SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

The hymn—

"Come thou fount of every blessing,"

was sung, and prayer was offered by Eld. T. B. Fargarson.

The Chairman read the following Report which was adopted:—

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

God has graciously spared the lives of all the ministers in the bounds of our Association during another Associational year for which we feel deeply grateful to our Divine Father.

Respectfully submitted,
S. J. MEADOWS,
Chairman.

The Report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Executive Committee has nothing to report except. that through its recommendation to the State Board, the services of Eld. John F. Bledsoe as Colporteur and Evangelist have been divided between the Liberty and Tuskegee Associations. Seven months of his time being spent in the bounds of the Liberty and five months in the Tuskegee Association.

Respectfully submitted,
S. J. MEADOWS,
Chairman.

Eld. J. P. Shaffer, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday Schools, read the Report of the Committee, Eld. J. F. Bledsoe occupying the chair. The Report follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The time for offering an apology for the Sunday school in the Association has past.

To urge the importance of Sunday school work is equally a waste of words, since it is universally accepted in our bounds, and almost all of our churches have schools.

What shall we say then? If our brethren will exercise a little patience and hear us, we beg leave to call their attention to some views we entertain in regard to Sunday schools and Sunday school work.

First: The school should be a theological seminary, in kind, and should with utmost care present and teach the doctrines of God's word. Great care should be taken to secure the very best teachers at our command. Teachers should appreciate the RESPONSIBILITY AND DIGNITY OF THE CHAIRS WHICH THEY OCCUPY, and should prepare for their work according to its importance and sacredness. If they will not do this, they should be relieved by others who will. No school has ever been known to succeed with a faculty indifferent to their work. A Sunday school does not constitute an exception to this rule.

Utmost prudence and wisdom should be exercised in the selection of a Superintendent for the school. In making the appointment it should not be forgotten that he is to the Sunday school what a President is to a Seminary of learning. Mere scholastic ability does not make men fit for College Presidents—they must have other abilities indicated by the character of work to be done.

The very gravest mistake that can be made in the organization of a Sunday school IS TO APPOINT THE WRONG MAN FOR SUPERINTENDENT. Can we expect that a College will succeed with a dead president to direct it? No more will a Sunday school with a DEAD SUPERINTENDENT.

Second: The teachers should bear in mind that the salvation of sinners is the central thought of the gospel of Christ, and that it is their duty to present this great doctrine of the gospel CAREFULLY AND PRAYERFULLY.

They should put forth their best efforts to lead their students to Christ, that they may be saved. They should be men and women of piety and faith, and they should expect that their blessed Lord and Master will sanctify their labors to the good of those whom they teach. All the children of God, in the school, should continually pray for the conversion of the unconverted students.

The second thought of the gospel is the development of christian character. The school, therefore, should address itself to this work, WITH ALL ITS MIGHT.

The very worst of our church troubles come of the want of christian development. Developed men and women, in Christ, and only such, may be expected, to act the part of heroes and heroines in the great battle against Satan and sin.

A christian may not be said to be developed unless he is benevolent AND VERY BENEVOLENT. He must be unselfish—Christ like.

Christianity proposes to eliminate selfishness from our character. We are fit for nothing in the Master's cause until this is done.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."—Matth. 16:24. Benevolence is a result from unselfishness, and cannot be taught by theory. We must act it; not merely accept the doctrine.

Mere words and resolution are a cheap sort of benevolence. The school must give—must put into practice what it teaches.

A school may give little or nothing for missions, or any other cause, beyond itself. Some schools are of this sort. This is not good training. If they collect any money, they manage in some way to spend it upon the school. This amounts to training the sudents to be selfish; no more, no less.

Such schools, if they should conclude to send a few dollars for Missions, gather the money by sending some of their irrepressible little girls out on the field to get it outside of their schools. All honor is due to the dear girls who go out to work for the Master, but the funds thus obtained are not given by the schools, and the facts in the case are misrepresented by their reports.

There is no development of the students by this sort of work. It is well enough to gather gifts from others, in order to develop them, but if we would develop ourselves, WE MUST GIVE.

"God loveth a cheerful giver."—2nd Cor. 9:7.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."—Acts 20:35.

But we need not extend this report by quoting from the word of God to prove that we should be benevolent, that we should give, for the whole christian system is a system of giving; a system of Grace, from beginning to end.

It has been said that, the boy is father to the man, and if so, schools which do not train our boys and girls with reference to future usefulness, in both church and State, are not worthy the name, whether they be called Sunday schools or State Universities.

Third: In all that we have said we have taken for granted that the Sunday school is understood to be under the control of the church. That we may not be misunderstood, we will say that the Sunday school should be the church at work. It should not be regarded by the church as a separate and independent institution; nor should it be educated to so regard itself.

Untold troubles between church and school might be the result; indeed we do not see how it could be otherwise. To avoid all this, the school should be fully under the control of the church. The church should appoint the officers and teachers of the school, select its literature, and be responsible for its conduct in every respect.

As nearly as possible, the entire membership of the church should be connected with the school. NOT TO BE IS HARDLY PARDONABLE. To encourage others to attend the school and refuse to do so ourselves, places us where it will be very difficult for us to explain our conduct. indeed IT CANNOT BE DONE, SATISFACTORILY TO THINKING CHRISTIANS.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. P. SHAFFER,
Chairman.

The Report was adopted after being discussed by Elds. Shaffer, Bullock and Russell.

On motion the Report on Sunday Schools was requested for publication in the *Alabama Baptist*.

On motion Dr. J. J. D. Renfro was asked to publish in the *Alabama Baptist* the sermon preached by him on Thursday.

The Report on State Missions was read by Eld. W. C. Bledsoe, Chairman of the Committee.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Your Committee on State Missions submit as the basis of their Report

the following taken from a recent circular sent to the churches by the Secretary of the State Board:

SUMMARY OF WORK.

Number employed	65
Days of service	2,620
Miles traveled	36,000
Addresses delivered	218
Sermons preached	2,677
Churches constituted	13
Baptized	272
Baptized by others in connection with their labors	396
Received by letter	252
Received by restoration	52
Sunday schools organized	190
Books sold	2,243
Value of books sold	$1429,02
Woman's Mis. Soc. organized	18
Bibles and Testaments donated, value of	$60 35
Visits to families	4,649
Visits to churches	634
Preaching stations	103
Subscriptions to Foreign Mission Journal	75
Prayer meetings held	429
Meeting houses commenced	16
Meeting houses finished	8
Subscriptions to *Alabama Baptist*	86

The above presentation of the work of the State Board during the last conventional year should receive the careful consideration of every Baptist in Alabama. It shows that great things are being accomplished for the Master and is full of encouragement to every lover of His cause. A consideration of the above summary should not only fill our hearts with gratitude because of the evident progress it demonstrates, but should also stimulate us to renewed effort. The grandest work now presented to the Baptists of Alabama is the work of Missions. Every effort made in this direction is for the glory of God and the salvation of men.

The East Liberty Association has made wonderful progress in this work during the last decade—progress for which we feel profoundly grateful—yet we have by no means reached the maximum of our duty. The State Board asks that for the coming Associational year we try to raise $1600.00. This can be easily done. In this connection we would very earnestly urge upon our churches the adoption of the "Envelop Plan," devised by our efficient Secretary, Bro. Crumpton, who will supply gratis all necessary material to put the plan into operation. Many of our churches have already adopted this plan with good results.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee { W. C. BLEDSOE, Chairman.
F. W. SHANK,
R. B. LUMPKIN,
M. V. MALEY,
J. P. BARROW.

The Report was discussed by Eld. W. C. Bledsoe, Dr. Nunnelly and Eld. J. M. Russell. The usual pledges were obtained (see close of Minutes) and the Redort was adopted.

THE REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Brethren: When we consider this age of progress with all the varied duties of life pressing upon us, we feel so much in need of a well developed mind. In every department in life we stand in need of it. While it is necessary and very important to train the mind, it is more important to train the heart. The true idea of education was born of the church of God; and now can but be regarded as a heavenly enterprise of the church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Wisdom and understanding are commended by the inspired word of the Most High and both are the fruit of genuine education.

I do not know what to think of a christian church that opposes education, and thereby endorses and encourages ignorance amongst its members and their children.

With this wonderful responsibility upon her, and the dread command of God urging her forward, the church which folds her hands and allows the unconverted world to take charge of the cause of education.

We should patronize and encourage denominational schools. I fear—yes I know, that we Baptists have not thought enough upon this subject. Everything considered, we cannot afford to fail to patronize our denominational schools. In this connection we recommend to the favorable consideration of the brethren our denominational schools—the Howard and the Judson, in both of which we have beautifully blended heart and mind training. Brethren, there are so many fields to-day ripe unto harvest, and the laborers are comparatively few, and the Master is still calling them to the work. Now let us contribute more liberally in the future for our means, for the developing and training of their minds for the great and glorious work which the Master has called them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dr. Nunnelly was asked to address the Association on behalf of the Howard College endowment. He made a strong appeal, but was not overwhelmed with cash or pledges. He raised $35.00 cash; $625.00 in notes divided into five annual payments.

The Report was adopted. On motion adjourned to 1 o'clock, p. m.

Prayer by Eld. R. H. Bullock.

THIRD DAY--AFTERNOON SESSION.

Friday, 10 o'clock, p. m.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

After singing the hymn—

"There is a fountain filled with blood,"

prayer was offered by Eld. Henry Garlington.

The Moderator announced the Standing Committees to report at next session. (See fly-leaf)

The Chairman, Eld. A. S. Smith, read the Report on State of Religion which was adopted without discussiou, as follows:

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee on State of Religion beg leave to make the following report:

From what we have been able to learn from the reading of the letters from the several churches composing this body, and from reports through our State paper, we conclude that we have made an improvement on the past year in a religious point of view. Quite a goodly number have

been induced to renounce sin and declare themselves servants and friends of our Lord Jesus Christ. There seems to be an increased interest in the cause of missions and Sunday schools. We are also glad to say that nearly all of our churches report regular or occasional prayer meetings. This we conceive to be the basis of religious prosperity. While all this is encouraging, yet we are far beneath the plain we hope to reach; and that we will reach by the help of God in the near future. In order that we keep the onward march, we insist that we realize the fact that the only hope for men and women who are down, and struggling to rise is the gospel, and that we forsake not the assembling of ourselves together, and to feast our souls upon its teachings. We also think much trouble could be avoided by insisting more strongly upon having a converted membership. May God speed the day when the professed followers of Christ may be fully awakened to their duty realizing that they are the salt of the earth and the light of the world just in that degree that they represent Christ, the great head of the church and Savior of mankind.

Respectfully submitted,

ARNOLD S. SMITH
Chairman.

The Chairman, W. D. Bulger, read the

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee beg to report the following:

The subject of Temperance has engaged to a very great degree the minds and attention of the brethren everywhere in the bounds of the Association, out of which has grown much good for the cause. Many places where liquors have been openly sold to the public, have been closed up by the favorable action of the people where they have had elections on prohibition.

It is potent to the observer of events that public sentiment all over the country is rapidly being educated up to a higher and nobler plain of morals on the Temperance question, and ere long we hope to see christian influence drive the whiskey traffic out of the land. We urge upon all our brethren from the churches the importance of continuing and extending their efforts in forming and enforcing public opinion against the destructive traffic of whiskey in any part of the territory occupied by this Association. We believe that properly directed, the influence of the churches of the Liberty Association is sufficiently strong to close up every liquor shop in our bounds. To do this will require courage and perseverance on the parts of the pastors and membership of the several churches.

If Baptists fail to do their duty on this question, who will be responsible for all the woes that come from this traffic? Brethren, we leave *you* to answer the question.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. BULGER.
Chairman.

The Report was discussed by Dr. Nunnelly, Elds. J. W. Hamner, R. Bullock and was adopted.

The Finance Committee made their Report which was adopted. (See closing pages.)

The Committee on Nominations reported that Eld. A. S. Smith was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next Session—Elder J. W. Hamner, Alternate; and the following were appointed as members of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

N. D. Denson, Chairman; J. E. Scarbrough, John Hunguley, S. J. Meadows, W. C. Bledsoe, Geo. E. Brewer, J. B. Barrow, F. P. Nichols.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved,—That the Moderator appoint a Committe of six, of which he shall be the Chairman, whose duty it shall be to re-district the churches of the Association, if they deem it advisable, and that the Association be divided into six Districts.

Under this order, the Moderator appointed as the Committee—W. C. Bledsoe, W. R. Dawson, Felix Shank, J. M. Berry, Jno. T. Hester. (This Committee to report at Session of 1887.

The following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved,—That the next Session of this body be held with the church at Dadeville, Tallapoosa county, beginning on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1887.

The Corresponding Letter was read and adopted.

On motion the Clerk was allowed $25.00 out of the minute fund.

The Association then adjourned to meet at 10:30 o'clock on Wednesday before the 4th September, 1887, with the Dadeville church in Tallapoosa county, Alabama.

The hymn—

"Shall we meet beyond the river?"

was sung and the parting hand extended.

Prayer by Eld. J. M. Russell, of Texas.

JNO. P. SHAFFER,
Moderator.

W. C. BLEDSOE,
Clerk.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

Dear Brethren of Corresponding Associations:—Through the goodness of God we have been permitted to hold another pleasant and profitable session. We gladly received your messengers, felt encouraged by their presence and we hope to visit you at your next annual meeting, that we may share in your deliberations. Let us, brethren, press forward in the cbuse of our Master;—in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

JNO. P. SHAFFER,
Moderator.

W. C. BLEDSOE,
Clerk.

PLEDGES FOR THE COMING YEAR'S WORK.

The churches are pledged by their Delegates to make an effort to raise the following amounts to be reported in cash or vouchers to the session of 1887:

Beulah	$20.00	LaFayette	$275.00
Bethel (Chambers)	20.00	Antioch	75 00
Bethlehem	65.00	Rock Spring	50.00
Cusseta	100.00	County Line	125 00
Providence	110.00	Mt. Pleasant	75.00
Hickory Flat	10.00	Farmville	25 00
New Hope	50 00	Dadeville	75 00
Roanoke	90.00	Camp Hill	15 00
Milltown	50.00	Tallapoosa	30.00
Lystra	15 00	Eagle Creek	00.00
Liberty	20.00	Sandy Creek	15 00
Shiloe	00.00	Pleasant Ridge	10.00
Lebanon	20.00	Bethel (Lee)	20.00
Mt. Zion	10 00	Fellowship	15.00

Total, 1,385 00.

The above includes the work of the State Board, Home Board and Foreign Mission Board.

PLEDGES FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Bethel (Chambers)	$5.00	Dadeville	$25.00
Bethlehem	10 00	Camp-Hill	3.00
Cusseta	15.00	Tallapoosa	5.00
Providence	25.00	Sandy Creek	5.00
New Hope	15.00	Bethel (Lee)	5.00
Hickory Flat	5.00	Fellowship	5.00
Roanoke	10.00	Milltown	10 00
Liberty	5 00	Lebanon	3.00
Mt. Zion	2.00	LaFayette	25 00
Antioch	15.00	Rock Spring	10.00
County Line	25.00	Mt. Pleasant	15.00
Farmville	10.00	Total	$253 00.

1876

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

To the Liberty Association:—Your Committee begs leave to make the following report :

CHURCHES	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Church Extension	State Missions.	Bible Work and Colportage	Ministerial Education.	Aged and Infirm Ministers.	Evangelization of the Colored People	Cuban Mission.	Havana Seminary.	Minutes.	Total.
Antioch	10.00	10.00	.....	20.00	.....	.....	2.00	.....	.....	.....	3.40	45.40
Beulah	.....	.....	.....	28.05	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.50	30.55
Bethlehem	10.00	10.00	.....	20.00	.....	8.00	10.00	.....	.....	.....	2.00	60.00
Bethel	5.00	20 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00	28.00
Cusseta	.....	.....	.....	98 80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00	101.80
County Line	10.00	41.00	.....	41.10	11.00	17.85	1.00	.....	.....	5.00	5.00	131.95
Camp Hill	.....	.....	.....	10.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	12.00
Dadeville	11.00	11.00	.....	25.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00	50.00
Eagle Creek	.....	.....	.....	5.55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00	8.55
Farmville	8.00	8.00	.....	10.00	1.20	2.00	2.00	.....	.....	.....	3.00	34.20
Fellowship	.....	5 00	.....	1 00	.....	6.90	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	14.90
Hickory Flt	2.00	5.00	.....	2.00	.....	.....	1.50	.....	.....	.....	1.50	12.00
Lystra	5.00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.25	13.25
Liberty	3.00	5.00	2.00	5.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	.....	.....	.....	2.50	22.50
Lebanon	3.00	3.00	.....	8.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00	17.35
LaFayette	13.45	101.50	.....	96.65	22.50	20.00	45.50	12.50	15.00	5.00	3.00	335.10
Mill Town	5.00	15.00	.....	10.00	3.00	12.00	5.00	.....	.....	.....	4.00	54.00
Mt Zion	3.00	4.00	.....	3.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	12.00
Mt Pleasant	.....	20.00	2.00	41.00	3.00	15.00	5.00	5.00	.....	5.00	4.00	100 00
New Hope	.....	5.00	.....	25.55	2.00	8 00	10.00	3.00	.....	5.00	3.25	61.80
Providence	.....	33.00	.....	33.00	4.00	10.00	5.10	5.00	.....	.....	3.00	103.10
Pl's't Ridge	.....	5.00	.....	8.00	.....	.....	2.15	.....	10.00	.....	2.50	17.65
Roanoke	.....	15.00	1.00	45.00	5.00	15.00	10.00	5.00	.....	5.00	4.00	105.00
Rock Spring	7.95	7.50	.....	22.65	.....	.....	9.65	.....	.....	.....	3.50	51.25
Shiloh	1.50	1.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	5.00
Sandy Cre'k	.....	.....	.....	18.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.30	19.30
Tallapoosa	.....	.....	.....	24.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.50	26.75
Bethel (Lee)	.....	2.30	.....	8.00	2.00	.....	3.00	.....	.....	.....	1.50	16.80
Totals	$97.90	$332.80	$5.00	$609.95	$54.70	$116.75	$113.90	$30.50	$25.00	$25.00	$78.70	$1490.20

From the above it will be seen that the churches have sent up

For Home Missions	$97.90
" Foreign Missions	332.80
" Church Extension	5.00
" State Missions	609.95
" Bible and Colportage	54.70
" Ministerial Education	116·75
" Aged and Infirm Ministers	113.90
" Evangelization of Colored People	30.50
" Cuban Mission	25.00
" Havanna Seminary	25.00
" Minutes	78.70
Total	$1490.20

We have examined your Treasurer's Report and find it correct.

J. E. SCARBROUGH,
Chairman.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES	POST OFFICE	MEETING DAYS	PASTORS.	CLERKS
Antioch	Chambers	LaFayette	4	J P Hunter	J B Strozier
Beulah	Lee	Beulah	3	C S Johnson	W M Bass
Bethlehem	Chambers	West Point Ga	4	R H Bullock	B T Smith
Bethel	Lee	Waverly	2	J Norton	J W Moore
Bethel	Chambers	Stroud	4	J Cumbee	R Wheeler
Cusseta	Chambers	Cusseta	2	W E Lloyd	A F Stanley
County Line	Chambers	Dudleyville	2	J P Shaffer	C P Hunter
Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	3	F H Moss	T J Gann
Dadeville	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	4	R A J Cumbee	W C McIntosh
Eagle Creek	Tallapoosa	Daviston	2	J C Motley	W W Clark
Farmville	Lee	Auburn	1	J P Hunter	J I Bedell
Fellowship	Tallapoosa	Buttston	3	J P Hunter	J M Boon
Hickory Flat	Chambers	Hickory Flat	3	J Cum	O D Worthy
Lystra	Chambers	Lystra	4	A S Smith	W H Bachus
Liberty	Randolph	Loulna	1	A S Smith	J D Orr
Lebanon	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	4	J A McCarley	Z F East
LaFayette	Chambers	LaFayette	2&4	G E Brewer	S J Meadors
Milltown	Chambers	Milltown	2	A S Smith	J W Smith
Mt. Zion	Chambers	Tillers x Roads	3	A S Smith	A D Matheny
Mt. Pleasant	Chambers	Camp Hill	1	J P Shaffer	R H Bledsoe
New Hope	Chambers	Fredonia	4	J P Shaffer	W F Fuller
Providence	Chambers	West Point, Ga	3	G E Brewer	L L James
Pleas'nt Ridge	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	1&3	W A Robertson	H Y Veazy
Roanoke	Randolph	Roanoke	3	J P Shaffer	H M Mickle
Rock Spring	Chambers	LaFayette	3	W C Bledsoe	J C Webb
Shiloh	Chambers	Milltown	4	H M Horsely	J R Carroll
Sandy Creek	Tallapoosa	Sandy Creek	4	F H Moss	J Sykes
Tallapoosa	Tallapoosa	Jackson's Gap	1	Cat Smith	J M Berry

STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	Baptized	By Letter	Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Dead	Total Mem'ship	No S S Teachers	No S S Scholars
Antioch	45	7	4	5	1	3	214	8	104
Beulah	16	5	0	6	0	0	130	7	60
Bethlehem	10	9	0	7	3	1	112	6	00
Bethel (Lee)	2	0	0	0	0	0	82	0	00
Bethel	4	6	0	6	1	0	100	0	00
Cusseta	8	2	0	1	0	1	62	4	51
County Line	25	7	3	8	1	3	228	9	45
Camp Hill	0	7	0	2	0	0	36	6	54
Dadeville	7	1	0	7	0	1	110	7	106
Eagle Creek	10	0	1	7	2	2	133	0	00
Farmville	9	0	0	1	0	0	86	4	30
Fellowship	1	2	0	12	1	0	97	5	55
Hickory Flat	0	0	0	3	0	0	24	0	00
Lystra	16	13	0	8	1	1	76	4	30
Liberty	18	2	1	1	3	0	98	3	64
Lebanon	5	15	3	5	2	0	91	0	00
LaFayette	8	9	1	2	2	1	136	15	130
Mill Town	22	1	2	10	1	1	153	5	68
Mt Zion	6	3	0	2	0	2	85	0	00
Mt Pleasant	16	0	0	0	0	0	92	4	30
New Hope	0	6	1	7	1	1	140	5	52
Providence	9	0	0	4	0	1	70	4	28
Pleasant Ridge	16	20	0	2	0	0	91	3	63
Roanoke	17	15	0	12	1	3	159	6	75
Rock Spring	5	11	3	15	0	4	204	7	100
Shiloh	0	1	0	9	3	1	56	0	00
Sandy Creek	8	3	1	10	2	1	97	4	60
Tallapoosa	13	1	0	2	0	3	124	4	50

☞Other statistical information is not given as so few churches filled their letters properly—Clerk.

RECAPITULATION.

Baptized 296; Received by letter 146; Restored
Excluded 25; Dead 30; Total Membership 3086.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Brewer, Geo. E., LaFayette, Ala.
Bedell, W. H., Roxana, Ala.
Blackwelder, W. M., Dudleyville, Ala.
Burden, C. J.,
Cumbee, John, Hickory Flat, Ala.
Fargason, T. B, Dadeville, Ala.
Horsely, H. M., Buttston, Ala.
Johnson, C. S., Salem, Ala.
McCarley, J. A., LaFayette. Ala.
Robertson, W. A., Dadeville, Ala.
Smith, A. S., Milltown, Ala.
Bledsoe, W. C.
Bledsoe, J. F.,
Bullock, R H.,
Cumbee, R. A.,
Forehand, B.,
Hunter, J. P., L.
Moon, D. S., M.....
Moss, F. H., Dudley
Stroud, L. B, Dudl
Shaffer, J. P., Ro
Sorrells, M. J., Stroud, Ala.

LICENSED MINISTERS.

Dawson, Ora, Camp Hill, Ala.
Garlington, H., LaFayette,
Hamner, J. W.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

W. D. Bulger,	Dadeville, Ala.	G. W. Shealey,	Cusseta, Ala.
W. A. Robertson,	" "	F. H. Moss,	Camp Hill, "
C. Cook,	Fredonia, "	W. R. Dawson,	" "
G. W. Hill,	Roanoke, "	J. W. Hamner,	Lystra, "
L. W. Farrow,	Milltown, "	W. C. Bledsoe,	LaFayette, "
L. L Cooper,	Auburn, "	G. W. Newman,	" "
F. M. Handley,	Louina, "	J. T. Hood,	" "
W. R. Key,	Buttston, "	J. M. Berry,	Jackson Gap, "
		J. H. Johnson,	Dudleyville,

The following named churches report Prayer Meetings:
Beulah, County Line, Dadeville, Farmville, Fellowship, Lystra, Mt. Zion, Pleasant Ridge, Roanoke, Sandy Creek, Tallapoosa, Milltown, Liberty, LaFayette, Antioch.

The following named churches report Sunday Schools:
Beulah, Cusseta, County Line, Camp Hill, Dadeville, Farmville, Fellowship, Lystra, Mt. Pleasant, New Hope, Pleasant Ridge, Roanoke, Rock Spring, Sandy Creek, Tallapoosa, Milltown, Liberty, LaFayette, Antioch.